

VAN NUYS HOTEL-BRIEF HISTORY

The city of Van Nuys was declared a town site on February 22, 1911. *At that time,* Work had already begun on the Van Nuys Hotel, one of the first commercial structures and the first hotel on record in the San Fernando Valley.

The owner/builder, Joseph Donnelly, was a gold miner from Goldfield, Nevada. He built and ran the "Van Nuys Hotel" for many years.

The structure is *believed to be* the oldest remaining on Van Nuys Blvd. and *is in* remarkable condition. Approximately one half of the front facade is covered but could be restored. The Trapico Brick Company manufactured special white faced fire bricks for the face of the structure. The handcrafted metal letters and numbers remain on the upper portion which read "Van Nuys Hotel, 1911."

It is rumored by Van Nuys oldtimers that the Hotel was a stopover point for President Truman and others because of its proximity to the Van Nuys railroad station, 3 blocks to the south.

Look Magazine also had original offices in it during the forties and fifties.